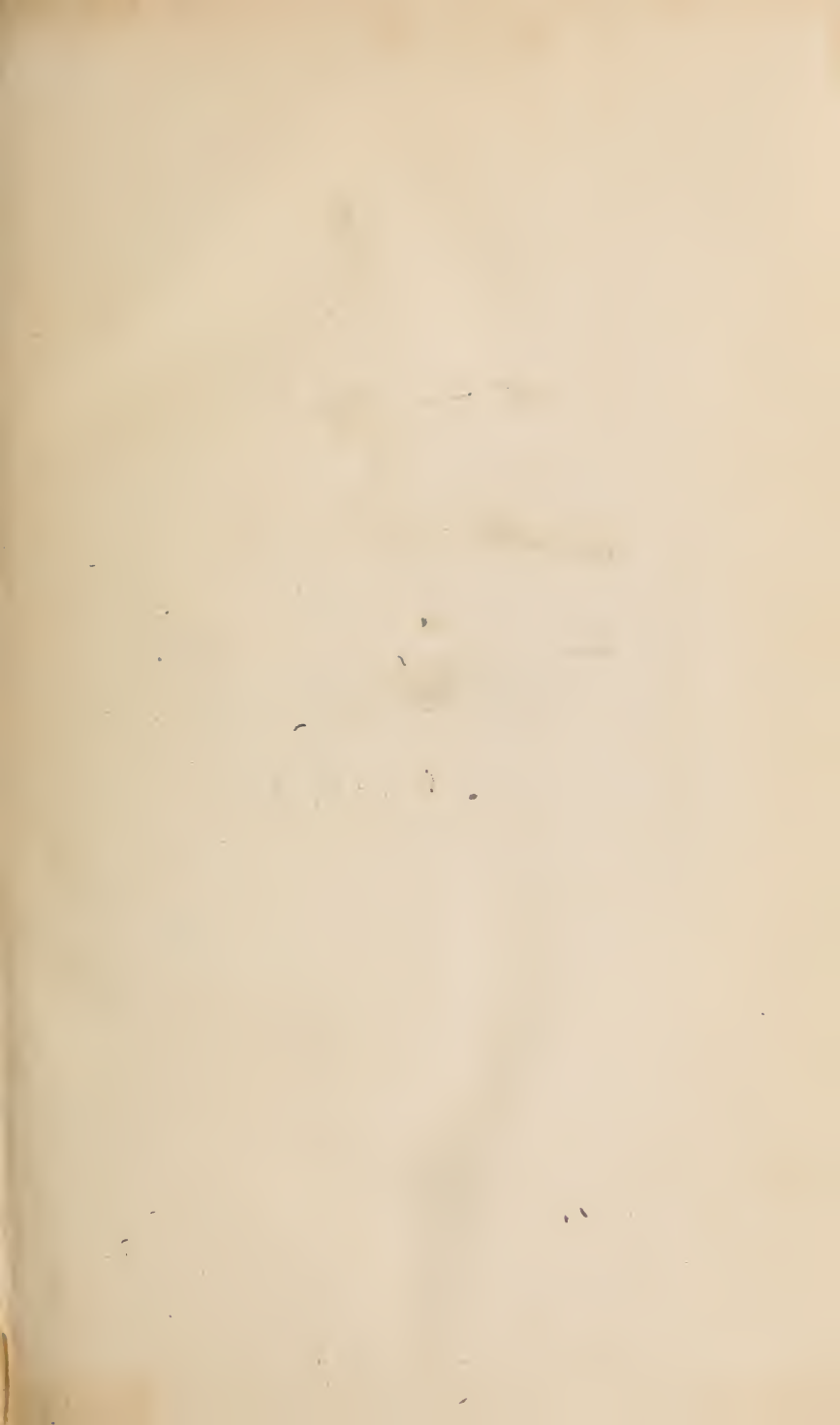


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ADDRESS\* OF HON. ABRAHAM HANSON,  
COMMISSIONER AND CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO LIBERIA.

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MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY :

I wish to premise my remarks by stating that, while it will be my aim to give you a candid and truthful account of such matters as have fallen under my notice in Liberia, it is no part of my primary object to make proselytes, secure emigrants, or induce the public to enlarge their contributions to this Society. Yet if any, or even all of these results should legitimately flow from my humble testimony, no one will be more deeply or sincerely gratified than myself.

Permit me frankly to say that I belong to that class of men who believe that the colored people in our midst have, with us, a common birth-right; that we owe them a deep interest in our sympathies, and a fostering care and protection, equal to, if not beyond, what we so liberally and cheerfully extend to those aliens by birth who seek a home and a country, under our government.

Hence, while we may differ widely upon this point, I am glad that we can so harmoniously unite our efforts under the constitution of your Society, in returning to Africa, those who have the desire and the ability to aid in the extension and perpetuity of the Republic of Liberia.

While I believe that the colored people, who have so long performed useful labor in the cultivation of our cotton and our sugar, &c., have become seemingly indispensable to the interests of a certain portion of our country, and have established a just claim to all the rights of manhood, yet I have come to the discouraging conclusion, that ages must pass away, and many a brilliant intellect be shrouded in obscurity, before the iron hand of prejudice

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\* At the Forty-ninth Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society, in the First Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C., on Tuesday evening, the 16th of January, 1866.

and proscription has been raised and removed from that patient, toiling, suffering race.

In the present crisis in the affairs of our country, the continuance amongst us of this emancipated throng is much to be desired. I can use no arguments to induce them to leave us, but such as are based upon their own and their posterity's immediate and future weal.

Were I a member of that race, with my knowledge of the tremendous weight that still oppresses them, and of the illimitable field which invites them to Liberia, with its innumerable facilities for comfort, independence, and usefulness, I should gather my family around me, and embark on board the first vessel bound for that distant shore, even if I had to avail myself of the generous aid which this Society offers.

In order to assure you how far you may give credence to my words, suffer me to state what means of information I have had.

In May, 1862, I accepted the humble, but honorable office of Commercial Agent of the United States in Monrovia. In December, 1863, the position of Commissioner and Consul-General of the United States to the Republic of Liberia, was intrusted to my hands, the duties of which I still continue to discharge. I have resided in Liberia about three years.

During this time I have interested myself in whatever promised to extend and strengthen the commercial and friendly relations between the two countries. I have made several visits along the coast and up the rivers, going from farm to farm and from house to house, and thus, from verbal statements and personal observation, have acquired a knowledge of the industrious habits and domestic comforts of the citizens.

In every direction new plantations are being commenced, and old ones materially enlarged and improved, so that I can testify that the progress in this department promises well for the future, and full development of the rich resources of the prolific soil.

Coffee bids fair to become the basis of many an independent fortune. It is cultivated with ease, and with comparatively small expense. Its maturity and fruitfulness are not retarded, but rather advanced, by the use of the intervening space for the growth of smaller plants.

The entire lack of suitable machinery for hulling has, heretofore, deterred many from engaging in this branch of agriculture, but this want, I am happy to state, is soon to be supplied, and you may expect in a few years a regular shipment of large quantities of coffee, as palatable and nutritious as any that is produced in any other part of the world.

Sugar cane has, I think, received a much larger share of attention than coffee, owing chiefly to the fact that it yields an earlier return, but, as in the case of coffee, machinery is not yet possessed at points conveniently accessible to those who have to transport their cane to the mill.

There are four steam sugar mills along the banks of the St. Paul's river, besides several wooden mills. The largest of the steam mills has capacity and power enough to grind all the cane raised within ten miles of its location, but on account of the heavy cost of toll and transportation, it has not yet been extensively employed.

My impression is that smaller mills, like that alluded to in your report, owned by Mr. Jesse Sharp, costing two thousand, or two thousand five hundred dollars, will generally be selected. Had I been a commercial man I could have brought home orders for a dozen mills from parties who are generally responsible, and who offer a reasonable guarantee to secure the payment.

Specimens of cane have been brought to my office more than sixteen feet in length, and from seven to eight inches in circumference at the base, of one season's growth. More than one-third of the juice of such cane is lost to those who have only the wooden mills to express it.

Perhaps what I am now about to say will seem like a design to obtrude my advice where it has not been sought, yet I will venture to speak freely, hoping that my motives will not be misconstrued. I trust the time is near at hand when our merchants in the United States will regard it as a safe investment, to assist the honest husbandman in Liberia, who can furnish good security, and suitable proofs of industry and skill, with the means of making his labor and his land available to their utmost capacity.

I wish to say emphatically, that large, gratuitous, and indiscriminate assistance to individuals should be studiously avoided, because these sometimes fall into incompetent and unfaithful hands, from which no suitable returns are made, and this works incalculable injustice and injury to the diligent and upright.

I do not mean by these remarks to cast reflections upon any one, but we all know, some of the friends of Liberia know from experience, and a respectable and generous firm in Boston, I have no doubt, knows to its regret, that it is unwise to entrust large capital in untried hands, without some basis of credit.

I believe that the integrity of the *responsible* commercial men, and planters and farmers of Liberia, will bear an honorable comparison with the same classes, in similar circumstances, in any other country. It is mortifying to them, as well as seriously detrimental to their true interests, and a serious barrier to the rapid development of the resources of the country, to have a breach of faith occur. They can duly appreciate the generous motives, but they deprecate the result of the acts of those who send large shipments of goods to irresponsible parties, only to meet with heavy losses, if not a total failure.

When these remarks are duly weighed, I think they will not work evil to any one deserving of patronage, and certainly not to those enterprising and upright citizens of that country, whose constant aim is to claim and deserve the title of honest men.

The article of cotton is not yet extensively cultivated, though I believe it is attracting more attention than formerly, and that which has been exported has commanded a high price and much praise for its superior staple.

But it would be presumptuous in me to enter into a minute detail of the various productions of the soil of Liberia before such an audience as I conceive this to be. I may say for the satisfaction of the officers and members, as well as patrons of this Society, that I know from observation, that the glowing reports which now come to you, from month to month, and which appear in your various periodicals and magazines, are, in the main, founded upon tangible facts.

There is not, there need not be on all this globe, a richer soil, a soil which yields more prompt and ample returns to the labor of the industrious husbandman, than that of Liberia. She has land enough to give a free home to millions who may go hence to aid in her future progress; a home where numerous, various, and substantial products may be obtained with less than half the labor required in many other countries. And, moreover, it is obvious to those who know the habits of the aborigines, their aptitude to trade, especially, that as Christian civilization and commerce advance, the doors of the almost illimitable interior will be thrown open, not by force of arms, by deeds of blood, or exterminating influences, but by the firm and steady progress of the arts and sciences.

I have often, during my sojourn in that land, wished that Mills and Burgess, Caldwell and Finley, Bacon, Bankson, and Crozer, Ashmun and Ayres, and a host of others, who pioneered this noble enterprise, and you, Mr. President, and gentlemen before me, whose zeal has been tested, and who have been "in labors more abundant," could look upon the gratifying fruits of your devoted and persevering labors—could my venerable friend, REV. R. R. GURLEY, the Honorary Secretary of this Society, whose name has become a Liberian household word, never to be spoken but with the highest esteem and deepest grateful love—see how happily these people live and labor, it would still more abundantly shed radiance over the remaining years of his careful thought and toil.

The present condition of the people of this Republic is encouraging. On every hand, I have seen the proofs of useful industry. All along the rivers, as well as in the settlements on the coast, the bambo hut, the log cabin, and sometimes the frame house, begin to give way for the commodious and substantial stone or brick edifice. They are furnished as good taste would dictate, not with what is usually termed elegance, but with modern conveniences to an extent beyond what many would expect to find in that far off land.

In accepting of the generous hospitalities of Liberian merchants and planters, I have always found their tables supplied with the substantial elements of food.



During our late national struggle, and especially since the ship *Mary Caroline Stevens* discontinued her semi-annual visits, the Liberians have had to encounter many formidable barriers to her rapid growth.

You will pardon me for saying that the houses in Boston and New York, which trade on the Liberian coast, make it a point to furnish shipping facilities enough for their own business chiefly, and first. Hence, it often happens that the produce of the farmer, or planter, finds no suitable market in the proper season, or it is sold to traders at unremunerative prices. This entails a double loss, as they must sell their productions below their intrinsic value, and purchase supplies at exorbitant prices.

The remedy for this will probably be found, at least in part, when your Society begins again, with regularity, the work of enlarging the settlements by emigration from this country. I give it now, as my decided conviction, that the largest portion of the most valuable productions of Liberia will ultimately flow to the United States.

Two incorporated companies, and one private firm, of another country, have been making large investments and flattering promises to secure the trade, but after all, the ties of kindred associations, added to the suitability of the commodities furnished from the United States, enable us, without special effort, to retain a fair proportion of that trade.

I sincerely hope that some expedient may be devised which will furnish a regular and reliable transportation of goods on consignment to agents in the United States, and the return of such merchandise as may be ordered in exchange. This would not only give a new impetus to the arms of industry, but would also enable the people to obtain supplies at fair profits. A few hints on this subject are all that I can consistently give; yet those hints will suffice to bring before your intelligent minds the difficulties which surround a people so far removed from the centre of supplies.

If an honest merchant, an industrious mechanic, or a toiling husbandman from Liberia could occupy my place this evening, you would have a story which would tell of difficulties and hardships which I must not mention.

I have said that the present condition of Liberia is encouraging. I do not mean to mislead you on this point. I would not even intimate that that *Ship of State* sails on an unruffled sea. She has to encounter difficulties, to brave many a storm, and navigate through dangerous straits, over shoals and quicksands, with frowning, cragged rocks on every hand.

Who can expect to find her perfect when the antecedents of her people have been duly weighed? To me, the marvel is that she has so much excellence to praise; and I say from my inmost heart, palsied be the hand that would write, and silenced be the tongue that would speak, to magnify her foibles. It is the pride of your

speaker's heart to testify that her people stand forth a living monument of rebuke, a noble vindication of their race from the vile slanders of her embittered foes, who sneeringly tell us, "the negro can never acquire the art of self-government."

Let me ask, what struggling people, with so small a share of patronage and sympathy, and with so many and such mighty opposing influences, ever survived so long or accomplished such results as this noble band of exiled men; yes, exiled by oppression, prejudice, and proscription, but inspired with the lofty purpose of raising themselves, as a race, to a power among the nations of the earth.

I need not set forth Liberia as a paradise, where labor, weakness, weariness, care, sickness and death can never come, in order to make it attractive to those whose presence and influence are needed there. I need not sing of it in the lofty strains which apply only to the fair and happy home above,

"There generous fruits that never fail,  
On trees immortal grow," &c.

Those who seek it only from such glowing pictures, will go there to sicken, pine away, and die. But those who go to find a free and happy home; to fell the forest, clear the jungle, drain the swamps, bridge the rivers, rear the cottage or the mansion; to break up the soil, cast in the seed, reap the fruitful harvest; dig into the bowels of the earth; exercise the rights of freemen; secure and enjoy blessed Christian privileges; to spread Christian civilization throughout the distant tribes of that dark continent, and to extend the benign influence of that "new empire," which the prophetic eye of Mills beheld nearly fifty years ago; these are they who shall "flourish like the Palm tree;" their glad eyes shall see a land of

"Sweet fields arrayed in living green,  
And rivers of delight."

To them will be given the living proof that "all men are created equal, with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

While speaking of Liberia's present condition, I will state that owing to a new law, which became operative on the first of January, 1865, excluding vessels engaged in foreign trade from other than ports of entry, some difficulties have arisen, and other interruptions are still likely to occur.

This, together with other considerations, is the ground for my suggesting that the transfer of a GUNBOAT from the United States to the Government of Liberia, upon terms mutually agreeable, would be most opportune, at this particular juncture in Liberian affairs. But I offer it most respectfully, as my opinion *now*, after mature reflection, that the interests of both Governments would

be more immediately, extensively, and I may add, permanently subserved by the return of our squadron to that Station.

I do not claim that our present commercial transactions with Liberia are of such magnitude as to justify an imperative demand for this, but I do claim that we should not be unmindful of the policy of other nations, who spare no labor or expense, to divert this trade into their own channels.

Perhaps it is expected that I should say something in reference to the climate of Liberia. From its location on the globe you will naturally infer that it is uniformly warm. My residence in Monrovia is in 6° 9' North Latitude, but though so near the equator, the air is tempered daily by breezes from the sea. The seasons of the year are two, the rainy and the dry; the former commences with May and the latter with November.

It is now (January) the hottest portion of the year—while we, in our northern homes, are buried in snow, pinched by the cold, hugging our dark, dingy stoves, nestling in the corner by some glowing hearthstone, crowding our half frozen feet over some neat register, muffling our mouths and ears with furs, or neat woolen scarfs, or encumbering our shivering frames with garments enough to furnish a small stock for a country clothing store, I expect that my friends in Monrovia will rise from their refreshing slumbers, just as the sun begins to gild with his radiance the eastern horizon, at six o'clock to-morrow morning. They will throw open their doors and windows to welcome the delicious breezes, wafting precious odors from such delicate plants and flowers as you, with all your care, and skill, and labor, cannot preserve, in perfection, even in your stately, solid mansions.

They will listen to songsters of the most gorgeous plumage, caroling their matin hymn, sipping the dew-drops from the rose and the honeysuckle, and hopping from tree to tree and from flower to flower.

The thermometer averages about 75° Fah., and seldom rises above 90° in the shade. Yet, with all these elements of comfort, *it is not the white man's home*. Africans, who have descended from an ancestry absent from the continent for from one to two centuries, can, with good habits and proper care, survive the change and enjoy health, while the white man droops and dies.

My observation leads me to the conclusion that a greater amount of mortality is occasioned by unreasonable anxiety, unfounded apprehensions of danger, unseasonable and immoderate bodily exercise, want of abstinence from improper food during convalescence, the want of suitable remedies during the fiercest attacks of fever, than from the actual, and, if I may use the terms, the avoidable or curable effects of fever.

Mr. President, I have been requested to state what this Society has accomplished. I confess, Sir, that I am unequal to the task. The annals of eternity must be unfolded and explored to find a full

answer to the question. A divine, an Almighty hand, must be extended to give the full reward, and place the unfading laurels upon the brow of those noble, Christian heroes who have labored, suffered, sacrificed, and died, to aid this God-like enterprise. Millions yet unborn will speak their praises on this earth, and myriads in the skies shall be witnesses of the reward bestowed upon them by "the judge of all the earth," when He says: "Well done, good and faithful servants," &c. Then shall that attesting multitude bow, with adoring gratitude, and say Amen, and Amen.

But, Sir, though we cannot trace all the events, or comprehend their full results, if it is not given us to see the end from the beginning, yet, for your heart's comfort, and to inspire you with new zeal, there are some blessed fruits which we can joyfully recount, and every Christian philanthropist must rise from the cheering contemplation, impressed with a freshness and vigor of no common character, to pursue his arduous career.

You found an eligible location for the settlement, a place most obviously reserved by Providence for this especial purpose. Call to mind the words of Stockton, when Mesurado's heights loomed up before him, "That is the spot we ought to have, that should be the site of our colony; no finer spot on all this coast;" and he was competent to judge.

See the intrepidity of that brave and gallant man, and the indomitable perseverance of his coadjutor, Dr. Eli Ayres. Dense jungles, dismal swamps, savage beasts, and barbarous men, intervened in vain to keep them from King Peter and his chiefs. They went and brought back a fair and honorable title to the land.

Reflect upon the numerous, fruitless efforts made by other nations to plant themselves upon the soil, and, more than all, remember that this was the very centre of the mart for the accursed traffic in human flesh.

And here let me assure you that it is my firm conviction that Liberia, which has not had a tithe of the fostering care and material aid which have been lavished upon Sierra Leone, has exercised a more extensive and effectual influence in the suppression of the foreign slave trade than that, or even all the colonial enterprises of Great Britain on the Western coast of Africa. This, if she had accomplished nothing more, well deserves, and well repays, all the toils, sufferings, and sacrifices which have been made; and from this consideration we must be constrained to admit that God inspired with superhuman wisdom, and endowed with superhuman strength, the first honored laborers in this holy work.

Hear what the eloquent and learned Hon. E. W. Blyden said to his fellow-citizens, on the 26th of July last, the anniversary of the independence of the nation which he serves as Secretary of State. Speaking of their location on the coast, he says:

"Here is a land adapted to us, given to us by Providence—peculiarly ours, to the exclusion of alien races. On every hand we

can look, and say it is ours. Ours are the serene skies that bend above us; ours the twinkling stars and brilliant planets—Pleiades and Venus, and Jupiter; the thunder of the clouds; the roaring of the sea; the rustling of the forest; the murmur of the brooks; and the whispers of the breeze.” And then, alluding to the insuperable barrier seemingly raised by Providence to prevent its occupation by the white race, he adds: “The miry swamp, sending out disease and death, is also ours, and ours the malignant fever—all are ours.”

Then I call upon you to look at the first emigrants who went forth under your patronage—went forth to enter upon new and untried scenes, and to endure unutterable hardships. Under the leadership of the sainted Ashmun they repelled and conquered every foe, and through successive changes proved themselves to be high-born souls, who could not brook to continue in a country where, to be of darker hue, was to be condemned to perpetual, menial servitude.

For nearly thirty years you labored on, toiling diligently and patiently, at the cost of many a noble life. Then you found the executive ability of Governor Joseph Jenkins Roberts equal to the task entrusted to his hands; you found also economy and skill in the various officers of the colony, peaceful relations, and profitable intercourse between the settlers and the natives, advancing intelligence, industry, and prosperity among the people; and these you hailed as proofs tangible, irrefragible, living proofs of their capacity for self-government. Then was presented the solemn and momentous question of an independent sovereignty.

Within the past three years I have often met with white men on the coast of Africa, and, I am sorry to say elsewhere also, who have curled the lip of scorn, and uttered words of irony at the idea that Liberians should *presume* to call themselves an independent nation.

Let no one suppose that this step was rashly taken, or that any sensible Liberian makes his boast of independence in the abstract. They know full well that they are only in the infancy of their being. Conscious of their weakness, they are aware that any one of the great powers of Europe has sufficient force to blot them out of existence. Their refuge and defence, the firm foundation of their trust, is, “the Most High,” who “ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will.” By your advice and co-operation, they became, what they now profess, and what they are acknowledged to be, a free and independent Republic.

Next, by memorials and petitions, you aided in procuring the honorable recognition of that independence by the Government of the United States.

What more have you accomplished? You have rescued from oblivion, and given to the world, the worthy names and brilliant achievements of those who framed the Declaration of Independence

and the Constitution of Liberia. You have introduced to a sphere of usefulness commensurate with their expanded views and lofty patriotism, such intellectual chieftains of their race as ROBERTS, BENSON, WARNER, Burns, Wilson, Drayton, Lewis, Blyden, Crummell, and a host of others, whose noble deeds as statesmen and divines soar far above, and stretch far beyond those puny, sickly, selfish souls whose interminable croak against the negro race is discordant in our ears.

Thank God, history in time, and the revelations of eternity, will tell that those highminded, self-sacrificing men have not lived nor toiled in vain; and the record shall continue until Africa, enthralled and degraded Africa, has been redeemed.

Again, Sir, by its well-directed efforts this Society has enabled this long oppressed and degraded people to demonstrate the capacity of the negro for self-government, just at the juncture of time when the world needed, and was somewhat prepared, to be enlightened on this subject.

I can assure you, Sir, that the people of Liberia have not failed to watch, and to weigh the startling events that have transpired in the United States within the last five years. We have been shaken to our very centre, as by an earthquake. 'The Almighty has called to us in thunder tones, "LET MY PEOPLE GO!"' At last, the mandate has been obeyed, to this extent, at least, that the fetters have fallen from millions of bondsmen. And O! how I long for a trumpet-voice to swell the joyful chorus, by triumphantly asserting that the negro is a man, made in God's own image, and purchased by a loving, universal Saviour's precious blood.

But do not, for one moment, think that the dark sons of toil on yonder distant shore are about to lay the flattering unction to their souls that every wrong has ceased, or that their brethren here are soon to find a quiet resting place in the home of those who have oppressed them.

They have implicit confidence in the integrity of our Government. They believe that we shall, to the extent of our ability, redeem the pledges which we have given. That we shall multiply the privileges of this emancipated people; that we shall throw open to them sources of useful knowledge, and introduce them to fields of honorable industry, and honest wealth; and that we shall, by all lawful means, protect them from insult and cruelty. But they know full well that the prejudice and deadly hatred, cruel as the grave, and dark as the lower regions, which still rankle in the hearts of their embittered foes; intensified by disappointed hopes of future gain, will still expose them to untold and unutterable hardships. They look forward for a mountain weight of political injustice still to press them to the ground.

In the spirit of Lott Cary, they virtually exclaim—"We are Africans, and, in the United States, however meritorious our conduct, or respectable our characters, we cannot receive the credit due to

either ; we wish to dwell in a country where we shall be estimated by our merit, and not by our complexion."

For proof of this, I refer you again to the eloquent address of the Hon. E. W. Blyden : " We know that the gale of popular applause which now fans them into a lustre of such splendid estimation is evanescent, and temporary. The reaction of the present state of things will surely come, and disappointment and irritation will ensue. Would it not be wisdom then, in the leaders of the blacks in America, to catch at once the spirit of the age, and encourage among the people a feeling of race, of nationality, and of union ?" \* \* \* " We have the germ of an African empire." \* \* \* " We think that half the time and energy which will be spent in struggling against caste, if devoted to the building up of a home and nationality of their own, would produce results immeasurably more useful and satisfactory."

Mr. President, and Gentlemen, I ask you if this does not sound across the waters like the Macedonian cry ?—" COME OVER AND HELP US !" Yonder I see them, not in dreams and visions of the night, but with open eyes, with ears intent, and with my heart beating anxiously for them, I see and hear them now—standing on the other shore, waiting with outstretched arms, inviting their fathers and brethren, forced from their fatherland, to return and share their glorious heritage. They say, come and unite with us, in the heaven-appointed mission of carrying to the distant tribes of the interior, the benign influences of Christian civilization.

The shades, the dense, dark shades of Egyptian's dreary night are now dispersing, the day begins to dawn, revealing to our wondering eyes " a cloud, little as a human hand ;" and it requires no prophetic tongue to tell us that, it " shall spread along the skies, hang o'er all the thirsty land." My expanding sympathies prompt me to exclaim, O ! for a host of honest, upright, earnest, devoted, self-sacrificing, well instructed men, to go forth, enter this fuller, rich, ripe field.

The institutions of learning which are now under the support of the Government of Liberia, are not, at this time, as numerous or active as could be desired ; owing, chiefly, to the embarrassment which cripples all their matters of finance.

But I have a bright hope that this embarrassment will be but temporary ; which hope is founded upon the fact that, a rigid economy is now observed in every department of administration ; and upon the additional fact, that they have, in their soil, an inexhaustible source of wealth ; and they are beginning, like men in earnest, to dig, and plant, and sow, and gather it. " Congo money,"—pardon me, Sir, for this delicate allusion,—" Congo money," that broken staff on which a few have leaned so much, and lived so long, has ceased to flow ; and now, a few years more, with the generous co-operation of your Society, will present you with a flourishing people, enjoying the fruits of their honest industry, advancing in

wealth and intelligence, as well as moral and political importance and power.

The Liberia College stands as a noble monument of the munificence of its founders. Under the Presidency of the Hon. J. J. Roberts, the benefactor of his race; and with the co-operation of the able faculty, a foundation is being laid, broad, deep, extensive, and permanent, to raise up instruments for Africa's redemption from thralldom and from darkness.

I have said nothing yet, Sir, concerning the open door which this Society has presented, by its labors and success, for the entrance of Christian Missionaries, to watch over the souls of those whom you have aided to go forth; and to preach the Gospel to the surrounding heathen tribes. But I come now to state that this is one of the brightest gems in the crown of your reward. Thank God, that Christian heaven has been infused, that the salt of the earth has been freely sprinkled there. That light, which is as a city set on a hill, now sheds its radiance over what were once "the dark places of the earth, full of the habitations of cruelty."

The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States has had messengers in the field for many years. From the coast, far into the interior, amongst the benighted Africans who had never heard the sweet name of Jesus, or been told of His stupendous grace and love, they have cried, "Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world!"

The records of the past will testify that bright intellects and devout hearts, were furnished from this branch of the Christian family. Most cheerfully they laid all the tender ties of home, kindred and country, together with their brilliant talents and lives, upon the sacrificial altar; won many precious souls from the darkness of heathen superstitions and practices, and presented them to their Master in heaven, as diadems to enrich the crown of His conquest over death and hell. They went forth weeping, to cast the precious seed of the ever-blessed Gospel into an unpromising soil, but they shall "doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them."

It is equally gratifying to me to speak in favorable terms of many of the stations occupied at present by this denomination. Several laborers from amongst Liberians and natives, have been converted, through their instrumentality, to the Christian faith, nurtured and educated for Christian usefulness, who give promise of being an ornament to society, and a blessing to Africa and the world.

The tender care, Christian foresight, enlightened judgment, and pure, heavenly-minded zeal of the Rev. C. C. Hoffman, have done much toward the completion of an Hospital for the indigent sick residents, and for mariners and strangers who may be overtaken by disease, far from friends and home; and, already, several weary wanderers have found rest and relief for the body, as well as comfort and instruction for the soul, within its walls.

This institution is distinct from and independent of the mission



work—and, as it receives its maintenance from the generous voluntary aid of the humane in this and other countries, I heartily commend it to your sympathy and assistance.

Mr. Hoffman is also making diligent efforts to erect an "Asylum for the Blind." Indeed, everywhere and at all times, this man of God is found moving under the eye of his Master in Heaven, and prompted by the divine injunction, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." The door of his hospitable home is always open to the stranger, for whom many an otherwise dark and lonely hour is gilded with sunshine, by the intelligent converse of this Christian gentlemen and his amiable lady.

The Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions has a glorious share in the toils, success and honors of placing the means of education and Christian privileges within the reach of Liberians and natives. Time would fail me to recount the instances of all the young men of Liberia, who have, by the liberality of this Board of Missions, been prepared for honorable and useful stations in the Government of the Republic. Many precious remembrances are cherished of the faithful and devoted men whom they have sent forth to impart a knowledge of letters, unfold the mysteries of science, and to enforce the obligations to Christian duty, upon the rising generation. I cannot say that these favored young men have all, *as yet*, laid their talents on the altar, or given their souls to Jesus, but the seed is in them, and the imperative claim is urged upon them to "go and work" in the Lord's vineyard. God grant that they may all become burning and shining lights.

The Muhlenberg, or Lutheran Mission, on the St. Paul's river, is, according to my humble opinion, moving in a manner, and in a direction which promises more general, gratifying, important, and permanent results than can be readily conceived, or set forth. The indefatigable missionary, Rev. Mr. Kistler, bestows his labor chiefly upon recaptured, or liberated Africans, and other aborigines, who are instructed in manual labor, in a knowledge of letters, and in the doctrines of the Christian religion.

There is a little flock of the Congregational order, at Greenville, in Sinou county, under the pastoral care of Rev. H. B. Stewart, who reared with his own hands the building in which his people worship. This servant of Christ imitates, in this respect, the example of the first great Apostle to the Gentiles, by laboring as a mechanic for his daily bread.

The little Baptist church, organized in the house of Colin Teage, at Richmond, Va., was transplanted to Africa, and still flourishes as the "PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH OF MONROVIA." From that faithful band, many a bright spirit has winged its way through unknown regions to fairer, happier realms above; and I know of many more there, to-day, who are

"Still tossed on a sea of distress,  
Hard toiling to make the blest shore."

This denomination has a church at Monrovia, New Georgia, Caldwell, Carysburg, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa, Bexley, and several other points, all of which are diligently seeking to "convert sinners from the error of their ways," and to "feed the flock of Christ which He hath purchased with His own blood."

They are toiling on unaided, and alone, yet not alone, for the Divine Master is with them, to cheer and strengthen them by the way. They have no pecuniary foreign aid. Formerly they were under the patronage of the Southern Baptist Convention for Foreign Missions; but on the breaking out of the rebellion their supplies were all abruptly terminated. Still, the labor did not cease.

I can most heartily commend these struggling societies in Liberia, to the favorable consideration of that useful body of Christians of the same doctrine and order, in the United States, as presenting the promise of a most fruitful harvest, in return for any liberality which they may be willing to extend.

The Providence Baptist Church in Monrovia was without a Pastor when I left the coast of Africa. It needs the services of a minister, burning with the zeal which inspired Him who "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." One who will "count not his life dear unto him," who can truthfully exclaim,

"The love of Christ doth me constrain  
To seek the wandering souls of men!"

I am aware, Mr. President, that it is not the *primary* object of this Society to send out missionaries, but if a Baptist minister, of sound intelligence, true piety, and ardent devotion, comes to you to seek a home in Liberia, and a field of most extensive and distinguished usefulness, direct him to Monrovia, and, if the place has not been filled, I will guarantee for him a cordial welcome from a loving and devoted people.

And now, Sir, having said so much upon this point, it is only reasonable that I should add, that *I am not a Baptist*; but, thank God, *I am not a bigot*; and I feel it to be my Christian duty to use my humble efforts to prevent this branch of the vine of God's own planting; this little flock, some of whom have lived, and worked, and worshipped by the side of Colin Teage, and Lott Cary; and many of whom have been enlightened, and aroused to Christian duty, and holy privilege, by the glowing eloquence of Hilary Teage, the Jefferson of Liberia, who left the impress of his lofty genius upon the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and laws of the Republic, as well as upon the hearts of many of her devoted, patriotic sons—his name, and memory can never die. I feel it, I repeat, to be a solemn, Christian duty, to use my humble efforts to prevent this church from being without a husbandman to cultivate the soil, or a shepherd to guide its members by his voice and example, and to feed them with wholesome Gospel food.

From the time that the sainted Melville B. Cox, uttered his dying exclamation, as the first Methodist Missionary to Liberia, "Let a thousand fall, but let not Africa be given up!" soldier after soldier of the Cross has risen, and joyfully exclaimed, "Here am I, send me," and the Methodist Episcopal Church has displayed a patience and liberality, far above all human praise. She has sustained schools, instituted, and for many years conducted, a noble Seminary, now temporarily closed. She has educated teachers, and ministers; organized a Mission Conference; and, to-day, she has in that distant field, more laborers than any other branch of the Christian family.

From this important mission, the talented and pious Bishop Burns, an honor to his race, and a polished shaft in Israel, has been called from labor to reward. The diligent, amiable, and faithful Beverley R. Wilson, fell with his armor on. His continual prayer was, that "the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into his vineyard." He left many seals to his successful ministry, who will be stars in the crown of his rejoicing, at the last great reckoning day.

The great want of this branch of the Missionary work in Liberia is, more *workers* in the field. And I humbly trust, that amongst the thousands whom this Society will soon send forth, many will be found who are called of God, and duly qualified for the self-sacrificing work of the ministry; willing and resolved to spend, and to be spent for this alone.

The time has passed away, even in Liberia, when those who "minister and serve the altar," should be required, or allowed, to encumber their thoughts with merchandise, or other secular pursuits. The field is large, the work is arduous and momentous, and claims and justifies the employment of the most expanded minds and cultivated, pious hearts.

But I am apprehensive, Mr. President, that you may have thought, and some of the distinguished gentlemen before me, may have thought, "Wherefore does he introduce such a topic as this? We did not send for him to make a Missionary speech!" No, gentlemen, no—I am sensible of this; and it has cost me a struggle to dwell so long upon what, to some, may seem to be out of place and season. My vindication is found in this, that I deemed the course which I have pursued to be the most appropriate method of assuring you, that the Republic, founded and fostered by your liberality and care, is, not in name alone, but in reality, a CHRISTIAN NATION.

It is true, indeed, that the emigrants whom you send forth go to a continent over which a midnight darkness broods, and on which oppression and cruelty have for centuries held undisputed sway. But, thank God, there is one bright spot on which the eye can rest and linger with joyful exultation, for there is the brightness of a coming Gospel day.

As the immigrant plants his feet upon the soil of his ancestors, and directs his wandering gaze from point to point, he beholds Christian temples rearing their humble but inviting fronts. He

listens to the "church-going bell." He hears voices, joining in hallelujahs to God, which rend the still air, and ascend as incense to the skies: while countenances irradiated with ineffable, heaven-born brightness, assure him that here Jehovah is known and worshipped; that Christ is honored and adored; and that the Holy Ghost diffuses his convincing, quickening, regenerating, sanctifying, saving power.

Thus the faithful followers of Jesus find that they have only left the fellowship of kindred souls, and the cherished scenes and happy circles of the household of faith, in the land which *gave them birth*, to find them again in all their freshness, fulness, and rich fruition, in the land of *their adoption*.

Among all classes in Liberia, from the President down to the humblest walks of life, you can find those upon whom the badge of Christian discipleship is placed with honorable prominence. To all who would cavil with me on this point, and hint at their delinquencies, I would simply say, "First pull the beam out of thine own eye," &c., &c.

Ex-President Roberts is an exemplary member of the Methodist E. Church. It has been my privilege to kneel with him at the table of the Lord, and mine also has been the lot to partake of the emblems of the broken body and shed blood of our common Saviour, administered by the hands of President D. B. Warner, as Elder of the Presbyterian Church.

I allude to these facts, facts deeply interesting to me, because they justify me in asking, With such God-fearing men at the helm of a struggling Ship of State, why may not the people expect and receive the protection and guidance of the Almighty's arm? When foes rise up to slander, or place themselves in formidable array against them, why may they not joyfully exclaim, "Mightier is He that is for us than are they who can be against us? or, Who shall harm us if we be followers of that which is good?"

And now, Mr. President, I must close by asking, Who can take a careful glance at what the people of Liberia were; at the circumstances which have surrounded them; at what they have accomplished, and at what they are, and what they are doing to day, and not pause, and wonder, and give God thanks, and take courage? Liberia lives, yonder, a striking monument, not less remarkable to me than the bush burning with fire, yet unconsumed! And what is more, Sir, my humble faith in the immutable promises of God assures me that she shall continue to live, and grow, for she is emphatically a foster-child of Providence. In spite of the supineness of some of her professed friends, and the sneers and open opposition of her cruel foes, she is stronger to day, in moral power and political wisdom, than ever she has been before.

I say, then, to the members and friends of the American Colonization Society, keep your armor on, and keep that armor bright. Your gigantic work is only just begun. I invite you, in the name

of Liberia, to send them willing, industrious, skillful emigrants, by the ship load, if you will. I do not say, send them a horde of helpless creatures; these you must keep until we have atoned for our enormous sins of oppression, by educating and elevating them to the proper standard fit for civilized society; and then, if they will, let them come!

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### LETTER FROM REV. R. J. KEELING.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 6, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR: Your two favors have come to hand, and should have been promptly answered, but for pressure of parochial and private duty. I had committed to paper my remarks at the last Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society, but in the hurry and confusion of moving my library and papers, the Mss. have been mislaid or destroyed. Indeed, I cannot recall my words of that evening, and if I could, I am quite certain they would not merit the permanent character which the Society is kindly disposed to give them by publication. Will you therefore have the kindness to excuse the non-appearance of my little speech of that evening?

With sincere thanks to the Society for its complimentary resolution, believe me, very truly,

Your friend and obedient servant,

R. J. KEELING.

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From the Journal of Commerce.

### AFRICAN COLONIZATION.

The time is a favorable one for the objects of the American Colonization Society, if they can be presented calmly to the consideration of the American people. During the past thirty years, the Society has been bitterly opposed by the abolitionists, the ground of that opposition probably being that a proposal to export the black race to another country, as their proper home, was no encouragement to the idea of emancipating them at once in this country. The abolitionists insisted that the colonizationists were the worst opponents of immediate emancipation. This cause of difference is now at an end, and the only question presented for discussion is this, whether it is better for the free black man to remain here, or to emigrate to another land. This question involves several great and important considerations, and it may be hoped that in the present condition of affairs these considerations will appeal with new force to the people of America.

There will be no difference of opinion or discussion of principles now between abolitionists and colonizationists. The proposal is to aid those colored men who may desire to go, in emigrating to Afri-

ca, and to encourage as many as possible to undertake the voyage. The considerations involved may be summed up under two general heads, those relating to Africa, and those relating to America.

When the Society was organized, Africa was regarded as a remote, wild and unknown country. Exporting men thither was declared by some to be cruelty, a hopeless exile. All this is changed. Explorations in every part of Africa have opened up its vast resources of agricultural produce, and indicated the fact that it has all the capabilities of sustaining wealthy and powerful nations. There is scarcely a year in which we have not some new revelation of the bounties of nature to this long unknown part of the world. The fact is abundantly established that, to a people who may colonize Africa's shores and penetrate its interior by the ordinary process of advancing civilization, a great destiny remains in the future.

Shall this colonization be by the white or the colored race? Experience has abundantly shown that the colored race is on every account better fitted for it. And an important fact may be seen in the present condition of Africa. Its inhabitants, except where Arabian and other Asiatic influences prevail, are of the black race. In other lands, colonization and civilization have resulted in exterminating the aborigines and substituting the new race. If Africa is colonized by the white race, the same result is inevitable, providing the whites can succeed in living there and becoming acclimated, a success which is somewhat doubtful, except in the northern and southern parts of the peninsula. A white race may possibly take possession of Africa, but only at the cost of exterminating the blacks, and the impossibility of a mingling together of colonists and aborigines will necessarily retard the advance of civilization for centuries. Its final success would destroy the negro race. On the other hand, there is every reason to believe that the black man from America, having been taught the advantages of civilization, and carrying with him the benefits derived from it, would become not only a successful colonist, but a missionary of civilization to his race in Africa. There is everything to hope for the future of Africa if a steady stream of negro emigration thither can be established from this country.

The considerations relating to our own country are of manifest importance. We presume that no intelligent and sincere philanthropist, however strong his notions of equality of races, will hesitate to say, that if, with the cordial assent of the black race, they could be transported from this country to a suitable land of plenty and of happiness, it would be better for them and for us to have it done. There is no question of doing it against the will of the black race. The simple question is, shall we offer inducements to the blacks to go to Africa; and, when they wish to go, shall we send them, and take care of them when they reach that country, until they are able to take care of themselves? There is one view in which the Colonization Society now becomes an institution of great value. The black race may possibly survive here; but the opinion of old servant men

in all parts of the country now is that the freedmen are rapidly dying off, and that a few generations only will survive, in steadily decreasing numbers. There is no denying the fact that during the war they have perished in vast numbers. Since the close of the war the mortality is said to be greater still, and the rate of natural increase much reduced. Without discussing these notorious facts, let us, at all events, accept this as a possibility, that the race is doomed to extinction here. If this be so, there is a prospect that the Colonization Society may become the means of vast good to the colored race. Its increasing facilities may, in time, reach the full demand for emigration of the decreasing race, and it may be the means of preserving from absolute extinction the civilization of black men, by transporting that civilization to a country where it may grow and widen its influences under a genial climate, until Africa shall be thoroughly redeemed.

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From the Presbyterian.

### THE ASHMUN INSTITUTE.

A large number of the friends of the colored race were present with the Faculty and Trustees, to witness the closing exercises of the second session of this worthy and prosperous Institution, located at Oxford, Chester county, Pennsylvania. The examinations of the students were continued for several days.

The gentlemen present were very agreeably surprised in the general readiness and correctness with which the students answered the questions put to them. They evinced a gratifying familiarity with the subjects that had engaged their attention. As speakers and writers, it was demonstrated that by practice they could qualify themselves for great and effectual service among the neglected millions of their race. Every thing appeared in the most hopeful condition in relation to the future of the Institution. The new College building has been carried forward vigorously, and will be promptly pushed to completion with the opening of spring. During the last session thirty-two students have been in actual attendance. Seventeen of these are earnestly seeking the ministry; twelve others have given themselves definitely to the work of teaching, should their lives be spared to complete their preparation; and only three out of the entire number of students are fitting themselves for a business life.

Over seventy applications have been before the Faculty for admission. The Trustees are straining every nerve to finish the new College building, and thus obtain room for a larger number of students. When the present enlargement is completed and furnished, there will be accommodations for one hundred and fifty students.

## DEATH OF REV. C. C. HOFFMAN.

Liberia has sustained a great loss in the death of our much esteemed friend, the Rev. C. C. Hoffman, founder of St. Mark's Hospital, and the Home for the Blind, at Cape Palmas, and a truly devoted missionary to Africa. We sympathize with our friends there and elsewhere in their deep sorrow at Mr. Hoffman's lamented death.

The subjoined from the pen of Bishop Payne is a touching and just tribute to the memory of one whose ministry was "lovely in the eyes of men, yielding precious fruits unto Christ, diffusing and leaving a fragrance more delightful to the wise and the good than the spices of India and the frankincense of Arabia."

"Died, at the Orphan Asylum, Cape Palmas, on Saturday, November 25, about a quarter to 8 o'clock A. M., Rev. Cadwallader Colden Hoffman, in the forty-sixth year of his life, and sixteenth of his connection with the Protestant Episcopal Mission at Cape Palmas and parts adjacent.

This event will sadden the hearts of thousands, and fall like a thunder-clap on the Church, as it did on the Mission and community which he so much honored, and in which he was so much beloved. But none like those associated with him in his labor of love, could so highly appreciate him, or feel so deeply his loss.

'Our beloved Barnabas,' the wise, ready counsellor, the constant loving friend, the perfectly consecrated Christian minister, the zealous; ever-active, able, single-minded missionary, the dear fellow-laborer in the gospel, delighting, above all things, to 'sound it out,' according to grace given him, to every creature; we as a mission mourn a loss never before experienced.

During the past two years our beloved brother has been so constantly occupied in doing the work of an evangelist, in the heathen tribes around Cape Palmas and sixty miles interior, and apparently with so little sacrifice of health and strength, that it seemed either that he had become wholly inured to the climate, or that a special providence had suspended or modified the law of climate in his behalf. But indeed this was only in appearance. While laboring so cheerfully for love's sake, that to outward seeming it was only joyful, few felt more 'the burden of the Lord' on his soul, or more keenly the physical suffering entailed by traversing tangled forests, navigating rivers in miserable canoes, preaching in towns of small huts, under a tropical sun, pent up by fences from the breeze, and surrounded by noisy men, women, and children. His wife, indeed, assured me that sometimes, after returning from these journeys, his feet were so blistered that he could scarcely put them to the ground, and his body was so wearied that it was not until bathing and oiling for several days, that he was restored to comparative comfort.



It was after his last journey that, when on his monthly visit to Cavalla, we noticed, with anxiety, a worn and haggard appearance of his countenance; still he was cheerful, and, though far from well, continued to discharge his multifarious duties until mail-day, the 17th of November. On that day, going to the post office, he most unexpectedly met our dear missionary sister, Miss Griswold, just arrived in the steamer. He conducted her to the Asylum, and under joyful excitement, though having much fever, dined and took tea with her and the family. It was to be the last time he should join that loved circle.

Immediately after tea he retired and took a dose of medicine. This probably, combined with the exceeding bilious state of his system, soon produced excessive vomiting and purging, the latter attended with bleeding. The doctor succeeded in arresting the vomiting within twenty-four hours, but the other effect continued, though in somewhat modified form, to the end. On Saturday his skin became very yellow. This symptom soon yielded to treatment, but, as he afterwards told me, the feeling of perfect exhaustion felt from the first night of his attack, was such as he had never before experienced; and I think it was soon his conviction that he could not recover.

It was on Wednesday that I went to visit my dear brother, though little expecting to find him so ill. He seemed relieved to find me by his side, but, being strongly under the influence of opiates all through his sickness, it was not possible for him to speak, or attend much to conversation. He joined, however, twice, with interest in prayer, and once requested me to read the 103d Psalm. And the few sentiments to which he gave expression were so characteristic, that a reference to them will furnish a good ideal of the leading features of his character and life.

1. In death as in his life, where duty was concerned, our dear brother 'conferred not with flesh and blood.' Soon after I got to his bedside, where I made a slight reference to my grief at the bare thought of severing the intercourse so long and happily maintained between us: he said, 'Let not human affection interfere with the duty of the ——;' he doubtless meant what God might now require at our hands. Thus, from the time when God first called him to the ministry of His Son, he had ever acted. Born to comfort, not to say affluence, in our largest city, with family and other connections, which, in worldly view, presented the strongest attractions, he renounced all to become and remain an humble, and for the most part despised, missionary to Africa. In the mission, though having generally a comfortable house, he was ever ready to leave that and to endure any hardship at the call of duty. He slept as cheerfully on a mat spread upon the dirt floor of a smoky African hut as in his own chamber. On his last visit to Cavalla, though only four miles from home, he slept in a native hut, because this was necessary to enable him to preach in all the six villages connected with Grahway and Half Grahway.

2. In death as in life, our dear brother was ever ready to do the will of God. When I said to him, in praying to God for his recovery, I thought I could plead the necessity of his presence for the Asylum, for the Hospital, and for the mission generally, he replied, 'I know your judgment is good, but you must not make it supreme. God's will only is always wise. That will be done.' It was just in accordance with this principle that when, in 1848, left the only ordained missionary in the field, I made an earnest appeal for more laborers, he, with Rev. J. Rambo, cheerfully offered themselves for the work. And after his arrival here, he was ever prepared to move where Providence seemed to lead. Happily and fully occupied at Cavalla, his first African home, when it appeared necessary he at once removed to Rocktown, and thence to the Orphan Asylum. And again, when it was thought that his ripe experience would best establish the Station at Bohlen, he was as ready to take his wife and children to the barbarous interior as to remain in the colony. Finally, when the summons came to remove from the earthly to the heavenly home, his language was 'Amen! Amen! Amen! If it seems good to God that my work shall now cease, His will be done.'

No more striking testimony of the estimate in which this 'good man' was held, could be given than that presented on the day of his funeral. Methodists, Baptists, with Episcopalians, had spent most of Saturday night in draping St. Mark's Church. On this day all other religious services were suspended, except those which were to take place here. Methodist and Baptist ministers with their congregations, and all the benevolent societies of the county, were present at the funeral service. Nearly the whole Liberia population, with Christian catechists, teachers, and Christians from the native stations, with heathen relatives to the number of five hundred, joined in his funeral procession. At the grave, after the funeral services were over, all lingered as if by common consent, A Grebo Methodist minister sang an English hymn, and Grebo teachers and Colonists in Grebo; Hanh bro te eh neo."

May 'the corn of wheat' thus falling into the ground and dying, like its great prototype, bear much fruit, inspiring with life, and light, and hope, and salvation surviving Ministers, Catechists, and Christians!"

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#### LETTER FROM MR. WILLIAM DOUGLAS.

The writer of the following letter was emancipated by the will of Mr. James Terrill, of Albemarle county, Va., and with his fellow servants, emigrated some ten years since to Liberia. Not having sufficient means to purchase his entire family, he bought the freedom of his wife and youngest daughter, and took them with him.

How he has succeeded, may be learned from his interesting communication, which was addressed to the former master of his wife and children.

His surviving children—three daughters—are represented “as fine, healthy women, between twenty and thirty years of age, well taught in all the branches of female industry, sewing, knitting, spinning, weaving, &c, and most anxious to join their parents. The oldest is a widow, with five healthy children, the oldest being a clever promising lad ten or eleven years old: the second daughter has two children, and the youngest is unmarried, and an exceedingly useful, clever and good girl.”

We have promised to give them all a free passage to Liberia, and support them for six months after arrival; and hope they will embark on the first day of May next. May they be spared to meet their parents in the commodious house of the latter, and ever continue a united and happy family, a blessing to themselves and to others!

CARYSBURG, LIBERIA, *August 16th, 1865.*

DEAR SIR,—The first opportunity, for the last four years, of writing to or hearing from you, now occurs, which I am more than happy to embrace. The *civil* or perhaps I should say the *uncivil* war in your country, as you are aware, has intercepted the passage of all letters to and from the Southern region of that country. I have been much grieved on account of the disastrous effects of this war, and its effects have been severely felt by our infant Republic, and more or less, no doubt, by the world. May peace ere long be restored to my mother country, and the melancholy results of the late war be superseded by perpetual amity and increasing prosperity.

I am proud to state to you, Sir, that we, that is my wife and daughter, are alive and well. We have in the meantime had very good health since we have been in this country. My daughter Mary has grown remarkably—and I am sure that you would fail to recognize her should you see her. I feel exceedingly grateful to God for the peculiar marks of His goodness toward an unworthy recipient, in having thus spared our lives, through the acclimating fever, and all the other diseases attached to a new country.

I beg to inquire respecting the health and condition of my children, and shall feel very thankful to you, if you will have the kindness to give me the desired information—as I have not had tidings from them for four years.

You may wish to know how I am pleased with the country which it pleased God to make my home. I must say that I am very much pleased indeed—that is to say I have never regretted my coming. And while I must acknowledge that there are many privations here, there are in some cases hardships that are, and for sometime will be inseparable to this new Republic—

composed of the elements or materials more or less rude, in many instances without means, etc. etc. Yet I see many reliable signs of improvement both with respect to the Americo-Liberians and the native Africans.

They are in many instances beginning to act as though they feel themselves men—and enjoying the sweets of Liberty, are availing themselves of the richness of the soil, and the products of the country in the way of agriculture, commerce, etc. etc. The natives are not only learning the English Language—but in a peculiar sense are becoming identified with us in these several respects—not to say that many are also imbibing our *i. e.* the Christian Religion.

I am engaged principally in agriculture, paying the most of my attention to the culture of the sugar cane. During the present year, I have made not less than eight thousand pounds, good marketable sugar, though perhaps the profits we make on produce of this kind, is less than in other countries—on account of the great want of agricultural improvements, etc.

We live in a frame house built since the war, of the following dimensions, viz. 32 x 24, two stories and the jump, containing eight rooms, and made of the best material in the country for durability. In a word we are comfortably situated, and we feel ourselves prepared to receive all of our children had we an opportunity.

I am, Hon. Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM DOUGLAS.

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## LETTER FROM PRESIDENT WARNER.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, MONROVIA, *August* —, 1865.

DEAR SIR:—Time, ever changing time, is flying and we are all being carried by its stream, to that “undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns.” A wide, and sometimes terrific expanse of water lies between us; and, as by the course of nature you must soon vacate your place among mortal men, and I as soon, perhaps, may go the way of all flesh, I feel unwilling to let pass this opportunity without sending you a few lines.

The praiseworthy and philanthropic work—the returning to these shores and successfully colonizing them in their fatherland, of hundreds and thousands of the colored population of America, in which you and your co-workers have long been engaged, is still progressing. The little germ which was sent across the waters in the memorable ship “Elizabeth,” and was attempted to be planted in Sherbro, has found congenial soil at Cape Mesurado. It has struck its rootlets downward whilst a beautiful crest of foliage is opening from above. Thus far, it promises a healthy and vigorous growth, which will eventually develop in a giant tree of Liberty, spreading its extending branches over the habitations of thousands and tens of thousands of the sons and daughters of Africa, who, but for its planting here, might have found for themselves a last resting place in mid ocean, or laid them down in their

last sleep on the plantations, in foreign lands, of cruel and unrelenting task masters. Their offspring, as they shall multiply—generation succeeding generation—shall sit beneath the grateful and inviting shadow of this tree of liberty, and adore Him who worketh all things according to the counsel of His own will, turning the hearts of the people from the worship of “birds and four-footed beasts and creeping things” to the worship of the living and true God.

Contrasting the aspect of this part of the coast, as it appeared to Lieut. Stockton and Doctor Eli Ayres, on their landing at King Peter's in 1821, in search of a site for the contemplated colony of Liberia—the appearance of Cape Mesurado, as they looked across the bay, upon its dark and unbroken wilderness—with the aspect of things as they are now—the same Cape presenting a pleasing and gratifying sight in its little city Monrovia, while for more than twenty miles inland, the St. Paul's river bears upon each of its banks, beautiful wood and brick houses and several steam sugar mills, we think we have abundant reason to expect a further improved state of things that shall fill our hearts with joy to look upon.

If these feeble beginnings of Liberia be followed up vigorously with additional good works on improved plans of operating; and if what Liberia has thus far achieved, (comparatively independent of extraneous aid,) be made the exponent of what, under more favorable circumstances, she could and would do, it may be said that a prosperous future awaits her, and that her friends abroad have strong encouragement to continue their efforts for her progress and ultimate success.

In the distance we think we already see signs of a happy future for Africa; a time when her exiled people shall be returned to her bosom; when devil worship shall cease out of the land; when the slave trader shall find no one here to bargain with for flesh and blood, and when it may be no longer said by Shem and Japheth, “We have a little sister and she has no breasts; what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for?” or, “what shall we do with the colored population of America now that the war is over?”

But in this great and good work of civilizing and Christianizing Africa, Liberia should play a very conspicuous part. Fostered and blessed as she has been by Heaven, if she turn away from the mission upon which she is sent to this country, soon I fear the judgments of God will overtake her and blot her name from the annals of the world.

Thus far, however, she has exerted herself to make proper and honest impressions upon the minds of her friends abroad and the aborigines of the country in which she is operating. The missionaries in all parts of the Republic are industriously at work, endeavoring to demonstrate to or convince the heathen around them of the superiority of the Christian religion, and begging them to accept its principles and practice its precepts. But shall we stop at what we are now and do no more than felicitate ourselves upon what we have done—cease to enlarge the base of the empire we say

we are commencing? No, surely, no. We have not yet fully cleared away the jungle from the spot we wish to build upon. The foundation of the superstructure we have in contemplation is not yet fully laid; we have but barely stepped upon the threshold of the door leading into this vast, wealthy and wonderful continent. These great and ancient forests must be converted into ships, churches, warehouses and schoolhouses; and into everything else into which they can be built up, and that will add wealth to and indicate progress—civil, religious and political—in the country.

Our farmers are using their best endeavors to render their enterprises still more and more remunerative both to themselves and the country generally. The merchants and traders have, since the enforcement of the "Port of Entry" law, gone to work, not only with renewed energies, but with brighter and clearer prospects of realizing a more satisfactory compensation for the cares and anxieties of their business than they received before. Let us hope, then, that our present dark day will soon be succeeded by a brighter and more prosperous one.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours, very faithfully,

D. B. WARNER.

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### THE BEST RECOMPENSE.

Colonization, in Africa, has been the favorite idea of many of the philanthropists and Christians of our land for the last half century. "We have," said one of our most gifted statesmen, "brought these people among us, against their will. We have for many years enjoyed the fruits of their labor. Morally as well as pecuniarily we owe them a recompense." And what recompense so full and complete as to send them—with their own consent—educated and Christianized, with the arts and sciences in their hands, back to their own country to found institutions similar to our own?

Acting upon this grand thought, American benevolence to the colored race has established a Republic, known and respected among the nations of the earth. With a President, Cabinet, and Legislative Assembly of black men, with a respectable merchant fleet, owned, officered, and sailed by blacks; with a rich and steadily increasing commerce, and a territory constantly developing its agricultural resources, that part of the coast of Africa which was once the centre of the accursed slave trade, is now its most efficient enemy. There the colored man is solving the problem of his capacity for self-improvement, and his success is the best answer to those who declaim against his ability.

## LATEST FROM LIBERIA.

Intelligence to a late date has been received from Liberia. The H. P. Russell, which left Baltimore, November 4, with one hundred and seventy-two freedmen from in and near Lynchburg, Va., under the auspices of this Society, arrived at Monrovia about the middle of December. Letters from some of these emigrants state that they had a pleasant voyage, that all had enjoyed and were in good health, and that they were delighted with their "fatherland."

The health of the large company of Barbadians who reached that Republic in May last had greatly improved, and they were generally employed in clearing land and in commencing business operations. They promise to be a valuable addition to that interesting country.

The Liberia Herald of November 15, contains an official copy of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation between Liberia and Denmark, duly ratified in London on the 27th of March, 1865.

The Liberia Herald of November 1, reports a large increase in the exports of the country. "Within the last five months five vessels have loaded with oil, chiefly at the Liberian ports of entry. They took on an average sixty thousand gallons of oil. This does not include the oil taken off by transient traders."

Two or three small and swift naval steamers would do much on the West African coast in stimulating and protecting American trade in that region. Let our squadron be renewed and permanently re-established in the African waters, to aid American merchants in securing their share of a commerce which promises to be a wonder in extent and value.

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## MR. HANSON'S ADDRESS.

We bespeak an attentive perusal of the address of the Hon. Abraham Hanson, elsewhere given in our pages. As the intelligent and able representative of our Government to Liberia since the recognition of its nationality, he has had full opportunity to become thoroughly conversant with the condition and prospects of the country, while his exalted Christian worth gives reliability to the statement which he has been pleased publicly to make.

Mr. Hanson embarked February 17, on the steamer City of Washington from New York for Liverpool, *en route* for Monrovia, to resume his official duties.

## EUROPEAN MISSIONS TO THE ZULUS.

When the attention of the Board was first directed to the Zulus, no European Society had attempted to evangelize them. But since 1840, and especially since Natal became a British colony, other laborers have seemed to be anxious to enter this field.

The *Wesleyan Mission* dates from 1841. From the beginning, however, it has directed a large share of its attention to the white population; and recently it has endeavored to care for the coolies employed in the colony, of whom there were about two thousand in 1862. Pietermaritzburg, Durban, Verulam, Edendale, and Indaleni are its principal stations.

The *Norwegian Mission* (supported by a Society which has its seat in Stavenger, Norway) was commenced by Rev. Mr. Schreuder in 1845. Having become discouraged in 1847, he went to China, hoping to find a desirable field in that empire. But he returned to Natal; and in 1850 he commenced a station eight miles from the residence of Mr. Abraham. The mission was re-enforced next year; and he removed (with another) to the Zulu country, where he still remains. At the present time he has six lay associates though there is but one station in Natal. Rev. L. Grout, in his Zululand, speaks of the "work" of this mission as "prosperous."

The *Berlin Mission* was begun in 1847. There are five stations in Natal—Emmaus, Christianenburg, Stendal, Emangweni, Wartburg. The number of communicants is eighty-four.

That remarkable man, Pastor Harms, of Hermannsburg, in the kingdom of Hanover, is the father of the *Hanoverian Mission*. It was his design to make his first evangelistic attempt among the Gallas, and the first band of laborers embarked for their country; but not finding an open door, they returned to Natal, (August 2, 1854,) and soon established themselves in the Colony, making Hermannsburg their principal station. In 1856, 1857, and 1860, large re-enforcements joined them, so that in 1860 they had forty missionaries, catechists, and teachers, together with eighty colonists. Among the latter, says Mr. L. Grout, "they can reckon men of almost every kind of handcraft—agriculturists, carpenters, joiners, wheelwrights, shoemaker, tailor, mason, miller, tanner, turner, shepherd, dyer." They have three stations in Natal, besides Hermannsburg, three in the Zulu country, and three beyond the Kahlamba Mountains. The natives are admitted to the church with the understanding that if they leave it, voluntarily or not, their children shall remain with the mission. The experiment which Pastor Harms is making, will be watched with the deepest interest by Christians throughout the world. Should his expectations be realized, however, the success of an American mission upon the same plan would be as problematical as ever. We could hardly expect a dozen American families or more to live in one large dwelling, and eat at a common table, having all their affairs, with the concerns of the entire mission, managed by a single person!

The *Church of England Mission* dates, properly, from the arrival of Bishop



Colenso in Natal, in 1850. It has stations at Ekukanyeni. (the bishop's residence, six miles from Pietermaritzburg,) Pietermaritzburg, Umlazi River, Ungababa, (near Ifumi,) Dr. Callaway's station, some forty miles inland, on the Umkomazi River. It has one or more stations in the Zulu country. There are no data, accessible and reliable, for giving the results obtained by this mission.

The denominational affinities of the first and last of these missions are sufficiently indicated already. The Norwegian mission is Lutheran, and so is the Hanoverian. The direction of the Berlin Missionary Society is supposed to be mainly (if not entirely,) in the hands of men who have the same ecclesiastical preferences.—*Sketch of the Zulu Mission.*

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### AFRICAN MISSIONS VINDICATED.

At a meeting of the Anthropological Society in London, Captain Burton, Mr. Reade, Mr. Harris, and others made statements traducing the Missionaries in Africa, and degrading their converts. A report of the statements were sent to Rev. Alfred Saker, a Baptist Missionary at Cameroons, who has been in Africa over twenty years, and we find in a late number of the *Freeman* his reply, from which we make a few extracts.

Mr. Harris said, "Missionaries do no work and live in the high house," to which Mr. Saker replies: I have the *high house*. But from whence comes it? Did I not put tools into the hands of these natives and teach them to fell the timber, to convert it into plank, and then to make the doors and windows? Did I not dig up the clay and make the first hundred of bricks, that the 'imitative animal' might do as I did? Did I not dig out the foundations and lay the bricks in mortar until these 'animals' could be trusted to build alone? The result is, I have a house, and it shelters me, and compared with native huts, it is something more than a palace. You say, 'The African, like the monkey, as an imitative animal.' True: and his imitative powers go a little beyond the 'animal.' He does 'copy the missionary;' and hence it is the mission has a second house also; and these animals have just completed a school-room, and are now building me a chapel which bids fair to eclipse my house. These are all in brick! Hence also it is that you will find in these towns, a body of artizans, who, twenty years since, had not seen the saw, the chisel, or plane. They now saw timber and work it; they make bricks and build; they hammer iron and weld it; and these men owe all their knowledge to the missionary. Yet you say—'Missionaries do no work.'

Mr. Harris, have you thrown yourself among a heathen people without book or other aid, and through long months of attention and study, little by little, gathered up the sounds floating around you; given these sounds a form in writing; step by step formed a vocabulary, and at last, after a long period, made an African tongue your own? And was this 'no work?' Or having thus learned a language, was it 'no work' to go among the heathen preach-

ing six times every week, at the same time keeping the school in daily and efficient operation?

If we preach, the people want the Scriptures. You may despise the book which teaches, not Islamism, but that God has made of one blood all nations of men. We do not despise it, but we seek to secure a good translation. If the book be written, it must be printed. These youths—'imitative animals'—must be taught to compose in type, and to work the press. Have you thus written, and taught, and labored till the entire New Testament is presented and half of the Old? If you have done none of these things, you assert of the missionary, who has done it all, that 'he does no work.'

Will you assert of a youth who attempts to master the language only, and dies in the attempt, that he 'did no work?' Or of him who learns the language, and thenceforward preaches daily, journeys weary miles, battling oft with fevers, and daily with physical weakness? This work I see in others every day of my life.

Go to Calabar, and you will find repetition of this toil. Go to the Gaboon, and you will find two languages written, and Scriptures printed in both; and men you thus malign are carrying the light of truth into the deep darkness of Africa.

Mr. Harris, I have done with you. I am well-nigh worn out with labor. Weakness compels me to restrict my toil to twelve and fourteen hours daily, and sometimes prostrates me entirely, and I shall, ere long, be where lies will not assail me, and the perverse heart work me no harm."

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### ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

THE EXPLORER, DU CHAILLU.—A letter from Mr. Du Chaillu, at London, communicates some interesting particulars of his last exploring journey. We have before noted that it was Mr. Du Chaillu's purpose to cross the continent of Africa from the West Coast, and that he had been attacked and robbed by the natives. He writes: "I have been in new countries, and penetrated much further into the heart of Africa than before. I met eight new tribes, hitherto unknown, amongst them a dwarf people who call themselves Obongous, and who are gypsies in their habits. My prospects for getting across the continent were most promising up to the moment of the unlucky accident which ruined all, and nearly caused the destruction of my life and my whole party. A gun in the hands of one of my men was accidentally discharged, and the ball killed two natives. The people amongst whom we were, at once took it into their heads that we had come to kill them, immediately attacked us, and we were forced to retreat and fight our way back, part of the time under terrible difficulties. I was wounded twice with poisoned arrows, but escaped with life and limb, and am now well."

A VALUABLE CARGO.—The Mail steamship Athenian, Capt. Griffiths, arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday, January 16, with advices from the West Coast of Africa, Teneriffe, and Madeira. She brought a large cargo, 4,888 sovereigns, 2,950 oz. gold dust, 3,000f., and 6,804 dols., and 21 passengers.

**AFRICAN TIMES OBSERVATIONS.**—The Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society has presented Dr. Livingstone with 645*l.*, in aid of his projected exploration in Africa. The Oberon, 3 iron paddle-wheel steam vessel, Lieutenant-Commander Edwd. H. Verney, has left for the West Coast of Africa. We read in the Bombay paper, *Times of India*: “Measures are under consideration for putting a stop to the slave-trade between India and Africa. It appears to be kept up chiefly to supply the Zenanas throughout Africa. Captain Grant, the African explorer, has been entertained at a public dinner at Calcutta. Colonel McLean, Lieutenant-Governor of Natal, died on 18th November in British Kaffraria, of a malady from which he had been long suffering.

**DIocese of MESURADO.**—A Diocesan Organization is about to be established in Africa, in accordance with a canon passed at the late General Convention. *The Episcopal Recorder* says: The Foreign Committee have taken such action upon the subject as will enable the friends of this measure to prosecute it with perfect satisfaction to them, and, as it is believed, with the cheerful acquiescence and co-operation of Bishop Payne. A sub-committee have had the matter in hand, and have given their sanction to the project of establishing a Diocese in Liberia, provided it be limited to the county of Mesurado.

**DEATH OF PASTOR HARMS.**—Germany, and indeed we may say the Christian world, has sustained a great loss in the death of the Rev. Louis Harms of Hermannsburg, in Hanover. An example of faith and prayer, of persistent labor, both in study, and pastoral visitation among his flock, and of high and holy missionary zeal for the salvation of the perishing heathen, such as this faithful, consecrated pastor exhibited for nearly twenty years, is truly worthy of suitable record.

**SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.**—Recent news from South Africa, show that the war between the Free State and the Basutos has degenerated into a series of raids. Moshesh, the Basuto chief, was left undisturbed in his mountain home, while bands of farmers from the Free State and the Transvaal Republic were dashing into his country and carrying off every thing upon which they could lay hands. The natives were retaliating in a similar manner. Moshesh had expressed his readiness to afford every satisfaction for the Natal raid, but nothing further had been done. Appearances generally indicated weariness on both sides and it was considered unlikely that the war would for some time to come reassume its former importance.

### Receipts of the American Colonization Society,

*From the 20th of January, to the 20th of February, 1866.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE.			VERMONT.
By Rev. F. Butler, (\$6.)			By Rev. F. Butler, (\$37.91.)
Francetown—Friend \$5. P.			Newbury—Cong. Ch. & Soc.
C. Butterfield, \$1.....	6 00		with avails of ring, which
			const: Hon. JOSEPH ATKIN-

son a L. M.....	32 91
Windsor—A Friend.....	5 00
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	37 91

RHODE ISLAND.

By Rev. J. Root Miller, (\$57.64.)	
Bristol—Mrs. Rogers & Sister, \$15. R. Rogers, \$10.....	25 00
Warren—Dea. S. Welch, \$5. R. B. Johnson, \$3. Dea. L. Hoar, G. M. Fessen- den, ea. \$1.....	10 00
Seekonk—Cash.....	15 64
Providence—Miss J. Bullock, \$5. Dea. W. C. Snow, \$2,	7 00
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	57 64

CONNECTICUT.

By Rev. J. Root Miller, (\$111.50)	
Hartford—Hon. Isaac Toucey, C. Seymour, ea. \$10. Rev. Wm. W. Turner, W. P. Burrell, E. Z. Smith, ea. \$5. Judge Waldo, Mrs. Wm. Jarvis, ea. \$3. Others, \$16.50.....	57 50
New Haven—Rev. Theodore Woolsey, D. D., S. Brace, ea. \$10. Hon. Wm. W. Boardman, Thos. H. Bond, Cash, ea. \$5. Miss L. Chaplain, Mrs. C. A. Inger- soll, Dea. A. Treat, \$3. Others, \$10.....	54 00
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	111 50

NEW YORK.

Kingston—H. H. Reynolds, family collection, of which \$30 is to Const. FRANCIS A. WATERS a L. M.....	40 00
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NEW JERSEY.

Trenton—Hon. P. D. Vroom, S. K. Wilson, Thos. J. Striker, B. Gummere, ea. \$10. H. G. Scudder, Chas. Pearson, Benj. Fisk, E. W. Scudder, Imlah Moore, Miss Elvira Howell, ea. \$5. John S. Chambers, \$3. Wm. D. Sinclair, S. Roberts, H. N. Barton, John Stevens, ea. \$2. A. V. Manning, J. O. Raum, Miss M. Sager, Mrs. Jas. Murphy, ea. \$1. 3rd Pres. Church, \$15, in full to const. J. G. BREARLEY a L. M.....	100 00
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Orange—Egbert Starr.....	10 00
Rahway—John M. Tufts.....	5 00
Beverly—Jacob Wilson, \$5. Cash, \$2.45.....	7 45
Jersey City—Collection at Union Meeting of 2d Pres. & 3d R. D. churches, \$25.77. M. Bailey, J. R. Worten- dyke, I. I. Van Derbeck, A. S. Whiten, John M. Mac- Kay, O. O. Shackelton, ea. \$5.....	55 77
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	178 22

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington—Miscellaneous...	553 86
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GEORGIA.

Augusta—Robert Campbell,	20 00
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ILLINOIS.

Monmouth—Rev. D. B. Jones,	2 00
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VERMONT—West Brattleboro— Rev. Lewis Grout, 15 cts. Woodstock—L. A. Marsh, to Jan. 1, '67, \$1.....	1 15
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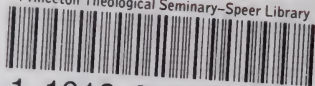




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